

# **Cure4 Cystic Fibrosis Grant Guidelines**

## Guidelines

Cure4 Cystic Fibrosis Research Grants support the development of new therapies that will result in a material increase in average life expectancy or cures for people with cystic fibrosis.

## **Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible to apply for funding through this scheme, the following conditions must be met:

- The applicant must complete and submit the application form.
- The application must be led by an applicant who is an Australian permanent resident or citizen, with research to be conducted primarily in Australian-based research facilities.
- The project must clearly meet Cure4 Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's core objective: to support the
  development of new therapies that will result in a material increase in average life expectancy or
  cures for people with cystic fibrosis; and
- The project must be less than 24-months in duration.

Collaboration is encouraged and applicants can involve more than one research group or institution.

Eligible expense items include direct costs such as salaries and on-costs, consumables, equipment, and travel.

Expense items such as indirect costs including overheads, capital works and non-essential items such as trade subscriptions, catering etc will not be supported. Commercialisation and/or marketing costs will also not be supported.

An application will be considered incomplete if it fails to comply with the instructions.

It is highly desirable that outcomes from projects funded by Cure4CF generate sufficient data to support applications to follow-on translational funding.

Successful applicants will ensure research is conducted in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations and codes of practice and all necessary licences and approvals must have been obtained and are adhered to. This includes those concerning the use of animals and the obtaining of patient consents and ethics committee approvals.



#### Assessment Criteria and Scoring

The following scoring framework will be used to assess applications.

		CLINICAL RELEVANCE & IMPACT	SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE	TRANSLATIONAL POTENTIAL
A zero or one in any category will make the project ineligible for funding				
0	ineligible	Irrelevant or impractical in clinical practice	Unfeasible or unjustified scientific rationale	No commercial or translational pathway
1	poor	May be relevant in clinical practice, but likely requires significant adaptation	Feasible project, but may be based on poor scientific rationale or planning	Potential commercial or translational pathway, but with major challenges
2	adequate	Relevant in clinical practice, but will not realise significant outcomes	Feasible project, sound rationale and plan, but little innovation	Sound commercial or translational pathway
3	good	Relevant in clinical practice, potential to realise significant impact	Good scientific rationale and research plan, evidence of innovation	Attractive commercial or translational pathway
4	very good	Highly relevant in clinical practice, highly likely to realise significant impact,	Very good scientific rationale and research plan, innovative, good data	Attractive commercial or translational pathway, clear strategies in action
5	exceptional	Addresses high need, would result in significant impact to many, clear path for clinical adoption, potential cure, or 20+ life extension	Excellent rationale and plan, highly innovative, extensive evidence, and data to justify potential outcomes	Clear and attractive pathway, IP already generated, partners already in place, regulatory strategy determined

# **Review & Award Process**

The grant review timeline is as follows:



Applications will be evaluated by Cure4CF's Research and Commercialisation Sub-Committee where scores will be collated, and ranks determined to generate a shortlist. The short-listed applications will be reviewed by an Independent Research Assessment Committee, consisting of no less than five members including the convenor who will be a member of Cure4CF's Research and Commercialisation Sub-Committee. The Independent Research Assessment Committee will score applications and make a recommendation to the Research and Commercialisation Sub-Committee, who then interview shortlisted applicants before making a recommendation to the Cure4CF Board.

Successful applicants are notified of their success through the receipt of a Notice of Success. Successful applicants must formally accept the Cure4CF grant by signing and returning the Grant Funding Agreement. The grant will not be activated, nor any monies released until this has been received. The grant must be activated within three (3) months of the date of the issue of the Notice of Success Letter. If the grant has not



been activated within this timeframe, Cure4CF reserves the right to withdraw the offer of the grant, unless an extension has been approved.

Projects must be underway within three (3) months following the return of the Grant Funding Agreement. We strongly advise grantees to apply for ethics approval (if required) immediately upon receipt of a notice of success to avoid project delays.

# **Obligations of Grant Awardees**

#### Reporting

The successful applicant must ensure all expenditure relating to the Cure4CF grant can be reconciled.

Cure4CF will require a verbal quarterly update and a written report every six months to ensure responsible use of the Cure4CF grant by the recipient. For projects of more than 12 months duration, Cure4CF will require a 12-month Report in order to release funds to support activities in year two. A Final Report will be required from all grant recipients within three months of the project's end.

Grants will be closed, and any remaining balances written off six months after the scheduled end date of the grant unless an extension is approved in advance.

#### *Intellectual Property*

Cure4 Cystic Fibrosis Foundation will not seek intellectual property rights of intellectual property from funded research. However, Cure4 Cystic Fibrosis may seek a beneficial return including financial benefit, of value realised from intellectual property commercialisation. The terms for such beneficial return will be outlined in the Grant Funding agreement.

As a charitable foundation Cure4CF must ensure that the results of the research we fund have the most chance to be applied for public good, which includes translation of findings to ultimately realise clinical or health benefit. Often, translation requires some form of commercialisation. Cure4CF asks that award holders obtain our consent before commercialisation events occur so that we can ensure that the commercialisation terms align with this interest. Cure4CF typically take a share of any net revenue our Grantees generate from commercialisation and reapply this income to support our charitable objectives.

#### Engagement in Cure4 Cystic Fibrosis Activities

Cure4CF is seeking a partnership with successful grant recipients and encourages Grantees to consider other resources, expertise, and support Cure4CF may offer beyond the funding period. Grantees must be willing to contribute to Cure4CF promotional activities as requested.